

SC Victim Service Coordinating Council MEETING MINUTES

1:30pm, May 12, 2008

Edgar Brown Bldg. Rm 415, 1205 Pendleton Street, Columbia, SC

Present: Nancy Barton, William Bilton, Hope Blackley, Vicki Bourus, Leigh Caldwell, Barbara Grissom, Surleaner Smith, Ashlie Lancaster, Jeff Moore, BJ Nelson, Tricia Phaup, Bob Rightsell, Veronica Swain, Carol Woodard, Sandi Wofford.

Absent: Marvin Bryant, Dean Kilpatrick, Joanna Katz (all informed contractor in advance of the meeting with scheduling issues).

The meeting was called to order and the contractor read a statement regarding VSCC operation in compliance with the Freedom of Information Act and Americans with Disabilities Act. Ashlie moved to approve, Barbara seconded, and all approved.

Barbara motioned to approve minutes as distributed, and Leigh seconded, with minutes being approved unanimously.

Ashlie provided an update regarding the VSCC's proposed legislation, H4601, which has passed the senate subcommittee with several specific amendments. These include two new VSCC seats, communications with stakeholders, and that certification mandates will not preclude training beyond the required 15-hour basic level.

Hope provided an update regarding efforts of the Certification Committee. This included outlining topics for 15 hours of basic training, as well as some discussion regarding logistics of approving training programs, appeal processes, and optional intermediate and advanced training tiers.

Barbara Grissom suggested a potential Crime Victim Representative who has provided verbal interest in serving. This individual has not yet been asked to provide written information, and there was a question regarding eligibility requirements established at previous VSCC meetings. The contractor will check previous minutes for precise wording of the VSCC's decisions in order to clarify eligibility stipulations prior to further action.

It was noted that another seat on the council was vacant (statewide child advocacy representative) and that considerations for the appointment were in process.

The contractor summarized some accomplishments of the year, much of which related to providing structure to the council via bylaws, adopting Roberts' Rules, filling new seats on the council, developing logo and letterhead, bringing in national perspectives on certification, and attempting to finalize VSCC draft legislation. The contractor discussed receding gradually from the current position in presiding and providing administrative support, with a proposed 6-month transition period during which the contractor would assist the VSCC in hiring a mid-level staff person through SOVA to assume these duties. The contractor will provide one-on-one training to the new staff

person as well as help the council to establish guidelines to promote effective functioning of the council (e.g., keeping abreast of national trends, developing new projects of interest to diverse stakeholders). A committee was formed to begin work on defining the new position and developing a position description. Committee members include Ashlie, Surleaner, and Carol, with the contractor assisting as needed.

The contractor will prepare a written annual report summarizing the year's activities. This will be distributed to VSCC members for brief review before being sent to stakeholders.

The contractor provided forms and information for annual evaluation. Members are asked to mail evaluations as soon as possible to assure that these may be tallied within the annual report. The contractor will mail forms to members who were not present at this meeting.

Bob motioned to adjourn the meeting, Jeff seconded, and all approved.